

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1, 3 and 4 are amended. Claims 30-32 are added. The amendments to the claims and the added claims introduce no new matter. A Request for Continued Examination is filed herewith. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

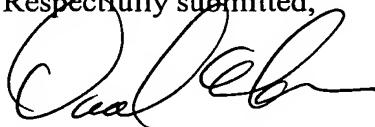
A Notice of Allowance was issued regarding claims 1-29 of this application on July 21, 2005. An Information Disclosure Statement was filed on April 23, 2004, forwarding U.S. Patent No. 4,823,991 to Skorka to the Patent Office for consideration. An initialed form PTO-1449 was attached to the Notice of Allowance indicating the Examiner's consideration of Skorka.

On final review of this application in preparation for paying the Issue Fee, Applicants have decided to voluntarily amend the claims to more clearly distinguish the claims from the apparatus disclosed in Skorka. Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claim language better distinguish the subject matter recited in the claims over Skorka.

The new claims added by this Amendment are also patentably distinct from the prior art of record.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-32 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


William P. Berridge
Registration No. 30,024

Daniel A. Tanner, III
Registration No. 54,734

WPB:DAT/tbh

Attachments:

Request for Continued Examination
Amendment Transmittal

Date: October 7, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461